

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's arguments for reconsideration filed 02-24-2010 have been found persuasive. It is agreed that Shimomura et al teach aqueous inks wherein the acidic group on the pigment are to facilitate water solubility or dispersibility that is not relevant in ink compositions that are non-aqueous, as disclosed by WO '162 and instantly claimed.

Takao et al (6,395,805) is cited as art of interest. Takao et al disclose a dispersion composition comprising particulate material, such as pigment, dispersed in an organic solvent. The dispersion comprises a high molecular weight compound having acidic groups and a high molecular weight compound having basic groups wherein the compounds are adsorbed to a portion of the granular material. The acid value of the graft copolymer is from 5-200 KOG mg/g. No radiation curable compounds are included in the ink compositions.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to /Susan W. Berman/ whose telephone number is 571 272 1067. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Scidleck can be reached on 571 272 1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SB
4/21/2010

/Susan W Berman/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1796